

## CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

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DATE: March 30, 2017

TO: Chief Executive Officers  
Chief Business Officers  
Chief Instructional Officers  
Chief Student Services Officers  
Academic Senate Presidents

FROM: Pamela D. Walker, Ed.D.  
Vice Chancellor, Educational Services

SUBJECT: Policy Change: Advanced Placement Credit

AA 17-20  
VIA E-MAIL

On September 23, 2016, Assembly Bill (AB) 1985 Advanced Placement Credit (2016, Williams) was signed into law by Governor Brown. This law requires the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in collaboration with the Academic Senate of California Community Colleges, to develop and require each community college district to begin adoption and implementation of a uniform policy, regarding Advanced Placement (AP) Credit. To the extent that they conflict, current title 5, section 55052 "Advanced Placement Examinations" has been superseded by AB 1985. For your convenience, the text of AB 1985 is attached to this policy as Appendix A.

In accordance with the law, the policy is that any student who passes a College Board AP examination with a minimum score of three in a subject matter similar to that of the AP Examination, the student will be awarded credit in a general education area. Each community college is required to post the most recent AP credit policy on its website.

#### AP POLICY LANGUAGE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION CREDIT

Colleges shall award General Education Area credit as shown on the CCC AP GE List. For General Education Requirements refer to title 5 § 55063.

If the college does not have a course similar in content to the AP Examination, then the college shall award credit for the indicated GE Area as shown on the California Community College AP List. If there is no GE Area that fits the AP Examination, the college may award elective credit. This policy does not address course-to-course awarding of AP credit as that is a local decision made by the appropriate discipline faculty.

**California Community College General Education Advanced Placement (CCC GE AP) List:**  
Advanced Placement score of 3, 4, or 5 is required for general education certification.

<u>AP Examination</u>	<u>CCC GE Areas</u>	<u>Minimum Semester Units</u>
Art History	Humanities	3
Biology	Natural Sciences	4
Calculus AB	Language and Rationality	3
Calculus BC	Language and Rationality	3
Calculus BC/AB Subscore	Language and Rationality	3
Chemistry	Natural Sciences	4
Chinese Language and Culture	Humanities	3
Comparative Government and Politics	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Computer Science A	N/A	3
Computer Science Principles	N/A	3
English Language & Composition	Language and Rationality	3
English Literature & Composition	Language and Rationality or Humanities	3
Environmental Science	Natural Sciences	4
European History	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3
French Language and Culture	Humanities	3
German Language	Humanities	3
Human Geography	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Italian Language and Culture	Humanities	3
Japanese Language and Culture	Humanities	3
Latin	Humanities	3

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<u>AP Examination</u>	<u>CCC GE Areas</u>	<u>Minimum Semester Units</u>
Macroeconomics	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Microeconomics	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Music	Humanities	3
Physics 1	Natural Sciences	4
Physics 2	Natural Sciences	4
Physics C mechanics	Natural Sciences	4
Physics C electricity/magnetism	Natural Sciences	4
Psychology	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
Seminar	N/A	0
Spanish Language and Culture	Humanities	3
Spanish Literature and Culture	Humanities	3
Statistics	Language and Rationality	3
Studio Art – 2D Design	N/A	3
Studio Art – 3D Design	N/A	3
Studio Art – Drawing	N/A	3
U.S. Government and Politics	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3
U.S. History	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3
World History	Social/Behavioral Sciences or Humanities	3

## Appendix A

**SECTION 1.** The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish a uniform Advanced Placement (AP) credit policy for general education within the California Community Colleges. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, in collaboration with the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges, consider, when adopting the uniform policy, granting course credit to a pupil who passes an Advanced Placement examination with a minimum score of three.

(b) Studies consistently find that pupils who earn AP exam scores of three and higher are likely to demonstrate multiple measures of college success.

(c) The lack of a uniform AP credit policy often serves as an academic and financial barrier for students enrolling in California Community Colleges and is a transfer obstacle for many pupils.

**SEC. 2.** Article 9 (commencing with Section 79500) is added to Chapter 9 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

### **Article 9. Advanced Placement Credit**

**79500.** (a) The office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall, in collaboration with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, do both of the following:

(1) Commencing January 1, 2017, begin development of, and each community college district subsequently shall begin adoption and implementation of, a uniform policy to award a pupil who passes an Advanced Placement examination course credit for California Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum, California State University General Education Breadth, or local community college general education requirements, as appropriate for the pupil's needs, in a course with subject matter similar to that of the Advanced Placement examination.

(2) Periodically review and adjust the policy adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) to align it with policies of other public postsecondary educational institutions.

(b) If the policy to be adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) is not implemented for the entering class in the fall 2017 academic term, the California Community Colleges shall adopt and implement, commencing with the 2017–18 academic year, the Advanced Placement policy adopted by the California State University.

(c) Each community college campus shall post on its Internet Web site the most recent policy adopted pursuant to this section.